

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete paragraphs 0012, 0013 and 0014, insert the paragraphs following 0002, and renumber the paragraphs as 0002a, 0002b and 0002c, as follows:

[002a] Referring now to Figure 1, the typical prior art two position spring biased lever system 10 comprises a lever 12 that pivots on a support 14 at one end and an over center spring 16. In this particular example, the over center spring 16 is a coil compression spring that has one end pivotally mounted on a support 18 at an end that is remote from lever 12. The distal end 20 of the spring 16 is pivotally mounted on the distal end 22 of the lever 12; the distal end 22 of lever 12 being at the opposite end of the pivot end of lever 12.

[0002b] Lever 12 is spring biased into one or the other of two possible end-of-stroke positions by over center spring 16 which resists any positioning of lever 12 between the two end positions. In the example of figure 1, the end positions are illustrated as an up position where lever 12 engages an up stop 23 and a down position where lever 12 engages a down stop 24. In the example of figure 1, lever 12 is shown in solid line in the up position where lever 12 engages up stop 23. In system 10, lever 12 is moved from one end position, the up position labeled U in figure 1, to the other end position, the down position labeled D in figure 1, through a neutral center position labeled N in figure 1. In the neutral position coil spring 16 is compressed to a maximum extent storing considerable energy. However, lever 12 and spring 16 are aligned longitudinally.

Consequently spring 16 does not produce any moment on lever 12 so that lever 12 is not spring biased toward either end position.

[0002c] The initial movement of lever 12 from the first or up position U to the neutral center position N required for actuating movement to the down position D, is a relatively long stroke against the bias of the spring 16 which expands and applies a counterclockwise torque to lever 12. After passing the neutral center position N, lever 12 is “over center” so that the remaining stroke to the second or down position D is assisted by spring 16. System 10 is symmetrical so that the return stroke to the first end or up position U is substantially the same, that is actuation requires an initial substantial stroke against the bias of spring 16.